IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A reciprocating compressor comprising:

a piston which reciprocates in a cylinder by receiving a driving force of a reciprocating motor and has a gas suction path therein;

a suction valve mounted at an end surface of the piston to control flow of taken in gas through the suction path;

a valve assembly having a discharge cover engaged to one side of the cylinder, a discharge valve installed at an end portion of the cylinder to control gas discharge of a compression space formed by the cylinder and the piston, and a valve spring that elastically supports the discharge valve; and

a suction valve fixing member engaged to a circumferential portion of a frontal surface of the piston to receive the suction valve for back and forth movement.

2. (Original) The compressor of claim 1, wherein the suction valve opens the suction path at the time when gas is taken in and closes the suction path at the time when gas is compressed.

3. (Original) The compressor of claim 1, wherein the suction valve is provided with

supporting surfaces at the outer circumference thereof, and suction surfaces that pass gas are formed between the supporting surfaces.

4. (Original) The compressor of claim 3, wherein the suction valve is composed of a thin plate.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The compressor of claim 1~~ A reciprocating compressor comprising:

a piston which reciprocates in a cylinder by receiving a driving force of a reciprocating motor and has a gas suction path therein;

a suction valve mounted at an end surface of the piston to control flow of taken in gas through the suction path;

a valve assembly having a discharge cover engaged to one side of the cylinder, a discharge valve installed at an end portion of the cylinder to control gas discharge of a compression space formed by the cylinder and the piston, and a valve spring that elastically supports the discharge valve; and

a suction valve fixing member engaged to a frontal surface of the piston to receive the suction valve for back and forth movement,

wherein the suction valve fixing member is provided with a through hole connected to the suction path at a center of the frontal surface of the fixing member suction valve.

6. (Original) The compressor of claim 5, wherein a protrusion surface is formed at a center of the rear surface of the discharge valve to correspond to the through hole.

7. (Original) The compressor of claim 1, wherein the suction valve fixing member has a cylindrical shape.

8. (Original) The compressor of claim 1, wherein the suction valve fixing member is forcibly fit onto a frontal side of the piston.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The compressor of claim 1~~ A reciprocating compressor comprising:

a piston which reciprocates in a cylinder by receiving a driving force of a reciprocating motor and has a gas suction path therein;

a suction valve mounted at an end surface of the piston to control flow of taken in gas through the suction path;

a valve assembly having a discharge cover engaged to one side of the cylinder, a discharge valve installed at an end portion of the cylinder to control gas discharge of a compression space formed by the cylinder and the piston, and a valve spring that elastically supports the discharge valve; and

a suction valve fixing member engaged to a frontal surface of the piston to

receive the suction valve for back and forth movement,

wherein a female screw is formed at the inner circumferential surface of the suction valve fixing member and a male screw is formed in front of the piston.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The compressor of claim 1~~ A reciprocating compressor comprising:

a piston which reciprocates in a cylinder by receiving a driving force of a reciprocating motor and has a gas suction path therein;

a suction valve mounted at an end surface of the piston to control flow of taken in gas through the suction path;

a valve assembly having a discharge cover engaged to one side of the cylinder, a discharge valve installed at an end portion of the cylinder to control gas discharge of a compression space formed by the cylinder and the piston, and a valve spring that elastically supports the discharge valve; and

a suction valve fixing member engaged to a frontal surface of the piston to receive the suction valve for back and forth movement,

wherein the suction valve fixing member comprises a cylindrical body engaged to the piston, and a stopping portion extending transversely from an end portion of the body to restrict the movement of the suction valve.

11. (Currently Amended) A reciprocating compressor comprising:

a piston which reciprocates in a cylinder by receiving a driving force of a reciprocating motor and has a gas suction path therein;

a suction valve mounted at an end surface of the piston to control flow of taken in gas through the suction path;

a valve assembly having a discharge cover engaged to one side of the cylinder, a discharge valve installed at an end portion of the cylinder to control gas discharge of a compression space formed by the cylinder and the piston, and a valve spring that elastically supports the discharge valve;

a round head rivet that fixes the suction valve to the piston, the round head rivet provided with a round head having a convex surface at each end thereof, and extending through an end portion of the piston; and

an insertion groove having in a concave recess formed at the rear surface of the discharge valve to receive the round head rivet.